

Message Text

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52

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-14

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 SAL-01 OMB-01

IO-12 INRE-00 EURE-00 /178 W
----- 053642

P R 291326 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4170

INFO USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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BERLIN FOR AMBASSADOR AND MINISTER WOOTTON

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, WG

SUBJECT: EC MEDITERRANEAN POLICY: FRG TACTICS

REF: BONN 4199

1. SUMMARY. WE CALLED ON LAUTENSCHLAGER (FOREIGN
OFFICE, DIRECTOR FOR EC TRADE AND AGRICULTURAL POLICY)
MARCH 28 TO EXPLORE WHETHER THE FRG SHOULD TAKE
MORE FORMAL ACTION AT THE EC COUNCIL APRIL 2 AND 3
TO ADVANCE ITS VIEWS ON FOREGOING REVERSE PREFERENCES
IN EC TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
LAUTENSCHLAGER INSISTED THAT THE FRG' S PROPOSALS HAD
BEEN CLEARLY PRESENTED IN THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL
DISCUSSIONS AND WOULD BE REPEATED ON APRIL 2 AND 3.
HE DOUBTED THAT ANY MORE FORMAL ACTION WOULD HELP
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AT THIS POINT, ALTHOUGH THE FRG WILL REVIEW THIS
AFTER THE COMING COUNCIL SESSION. END
SUMMARY.

2. LAUTENSCHLAGER MAINTAINED THAT AT THE MARCH 5, 6
COUNCIL PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY APEL HAD
FULLY PRESENTED THE FRG POSITION (WHICH HE DESCRIBED
AS REPORTED REFTEL). THE SAME FORMULATION HAD
SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN DISCUSSED IN SEVERAL PERMREP
SESSIONS. HE MAINTAINED THAT IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE
FRG PROPOSALS INVOLVED AN AMENDMENT OF THE
COMMISSION' S RECOMMENDATIONS. SUBMITTING A WRITTEN
PROPOSAL WOULD NOT, HE MAINTAINED, ADD TO WHAT HAD BEEN
SAID ALREADY AND WOULD BE OUT OF LINE WITH THE EC
CLUB' S PROCEDURE IN A DISCUSSION OF AN ISSUE OF
PRINCIPLE. MANDATE DRAFTING WOULD COME LATER.

3. LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID THE FRG DELEGATION WILL GO
THROUGH THE SAME PROPOSAL IN THE APRIL 2 AND 3
COUNCIL. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE NOTED, THE POSITION
TAKEN BY UNDER SECRETARY CASEY IN THE US- EC
CONSULTATIONS MARCH 21, 22 WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL
TO THE FRG' S EFFORTS. IF THERE WERE AT THE COUNCIL
NO MOVEMENT IN TERMS OF THE POSITIONS OF OTHER
MEMBER STATES, THEN THE FRG WOULD HAVE TO RECONSIDER
WHAT TO DO NEXT, INCLUDING POSSIBLY BILATERAL
APPROACHES, TO GET THE MEDITERRANEAN POLICY DISCUSSION
OFF DEAD CENTER. HE WAS NOT SURE THAT TIME WAS ON
THE SIDE OF THOSE ARGUING FOR ELIMINATION OF REVERSE
PREFERENCES AND HOPED THE ARRAY OF POSITIONS
IN THE EC ON THIS QUESTION WOULD COALESCE NEAR THE
8- TO-1 PATTERN, WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO
FORCE FRANCE TO MOVE FROM ITS PRESENT POSITION.

4. IF THE DIFFUSION OF POSITIONS DISPLAYED AT THE
LAST COUNCIL SHOULD PERSIST BEYOND THE APRIL 2 AND 3
SESSION, LAUTENSCHLAGER THOUGHT DISCUSSION COULD
TURN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF GIVING THE COMMISSION
A PARTIAL MANDATE TO NEGOTIATE INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS
AND EC INDUSTRIAL TARIFF CONCESSIONS, LEAVING THE
REVERSE PREFERENCE QUESTION OPEN. HE ADDED THAT HE
HIMSELF DID NOT CONSIDER THIS COURSE A GOOD ONE.
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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